

used the money to expand a talent search business called Direction and Exposure.

She says, "This is one of the smart moves I made to have more money to invest in my business." She feels good about herself, and she's saving money to make a dream come true. And she's no longer raiding her cookie jar.

Jacqui's is just one success story among many. This program is working in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania has one of the largest IDA programs in the country. The Commonwealth has appropriated \$4.5 million dollars to the program to date, and another \$1.5 million is included in this year's budget. Right now, there are 2584 contracted accounts divided among 15 financial institutions around the state. At the end of last year, IDA investors in Pennsylvania had saved almost three-quarters of a million dollars.

IDAs are a proven success in many other states too. But they are under utilized. Where they have been made available, they have worked. They are meant to be a springboard to continued prosperity. Making higher education possible makes prosperity possible. Helping people start small businesses makes prosperity possible. But without hopeful that will be very soon. I look forward to working with the President, House Leadership, and all of the cosponsors of this legislation to make this dream come true.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FATHER'S DAY GALA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great institution that is serving the needs of families in my district and the entire Delaware Valley.

For the past two years, the Father's Day Gala Program Committee, led by Karen Burton, has honored that most important of all men, the father. As Father's Day approaches, all of us are compelled to think of our fathers and the role they played in our lives. Those of us who are privileged to have had the support of strong fathers know that our paths were made easier by the love, the advice, the nurturing and the discipline they gave us. Those who have not had that privilege know well the void that lack left in their lives.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we don't often take the time to honor our fathers, or step fathers. Most Dads are too busy being Dads to worry about that. But it is wonderful that a group of citizens would come together as volunteers to say thank you to all the fathers out there. I must say that I am especially proud of this gala, since so much of the work on this event was done by Karen Burton, who was born and raised in my district. Ms. Burton, her mother Sara, and her entire family have worked tirelessly to make my district a better place. This event is in keeping with their family tradition.

And so, to all the fathers at the Gala, and to all the women and children who love them, I say Happy Father's Day and keep up the good work.

INTRODUCING THE CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Child Poverty Reduction Act. Senator CHARLES SCHUMER is introducing companion legislation in the Senate.

During the welfare debate of 1995–96, I had concerns that too much emphasis was placed on kicking people off of welfare rolls rather than reducing poverty. Unfortunately, my concerns—and those of several of my colleagues and administration officials who quit their jobs in protest of welfare reform's passage in 1996—proved accurate.

The emphasis on reducing welfare caseloads has caused welfare caseloads to drop faster than the poverty rate. From 1996–99, the number of people receiving welfare dropped 41 percent, while child poverty was reduced only 16.3 percent in the same period. As a result, almost one in six children (12 million) continue to live in poverty.

Child poverty can have devastating impacts that last a lifetime. Studies show that poverty has harmful effects on children's cognitive ability and school performance and can contribute to early sexual activity and pregnancy, crime and incarceration, and unemployment.

To encourage states to use funds to improve the well-being of our nation's children, this bill amends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program by making reducing child poverty an explicit goal of the welfare law and creating a \$150 million high performance bonus grant to states that reduce child poverty.

To receive this new TANF high performance bonus, states would have to reduce their child poverty rate from the previous year's poverty rate. To ensure that states sustain their efforts to reduce child poverty, the high performance bonus is only awarded to states whose most recent child poverty rate does not exceed their lowest poverty rate since the beginning of this bonus program.

I find it even more troubling that almost 5 million children live in extreme poverty in which their families' incomes are less than 50 percent of poverty (\$8,731.50 annually for a family of four, or just \$728 a month). This bill attempts to help those especially needy children by only rewarding states that reduce poverty for children at all levels of need.

Thus, the high performance bonus is only given to states that both reduce the overall poverty rate and prevent any increase the percentage of poor children living in extreme poverty.

Children have no choice as to whether they are on welfare and I will continue to look for methods to protect them from the effects of TANF. While this legislation is not the overall solution to reducing child poverty, it is a clear step in the right direction.

Reducing child poverty is one of the smartest policy initiatives that this Congress can embark on since children are our nation's future. I urge my colleagues to please join me in this small, but important, investment to reduce child poverty and improve child well being by enacting the Child Poverty Reduction Act.

IN MEMORY OF TIMOTHY LAWSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Timothy Lawson, a young man who lived a life of honor, patriotism, and had a keen sense of service to our nation.

I was deeply saddened when I heard of Timothy's passing. However, we can take comfort in this trying time by knowing that he served our country courageously. Timothy embodied a truly dignified manner during his service to our country.

While enlisted in the Navy during the Persian Gulf War, he received a Navy Achievement Medal for saving two people out of a liquid oxygen fire. After returning to California from the Persian Gulf, he studied criminal justice together with his brother, Gary, at California State University, Sacramento. Before enlisting in the Marines, Timothy held a position in the United States Secret Service while attending California State University, Sacramento.

Not only did Timothy emanate dignity in his professional life, but he also strove to lead a life modeled on the lessons he learned from his family. His parents instilled this sense of service during his childhood in Northern California and Clinton, Iowa.

During a training mission Timothy's plane went down in the desert in California's San Joaquin Valley. He and Navy Lt. Timothy Gilbreth were flying a T-34C Turbo Mentor about three miles north of the El Centro Naval Air Station.

During my time in the United States Army I witnessed the passing of many of my fellow soldiers. Whether during peacetime or in times of conflict, when a member of our Armed Services passes away in the line of duty, we should not fail to recognize the sacrifices they made.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the service and patriotism Timothy Lawson. It is appropriate, during a week in which we are remembering Americans who lost their lives in the Armed Services, that we all acknowledge and appreciate the sacrifices that Timothy made for our country.

EUGENE AND CONNIE ROTH HONORED WITH SHOFAR AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my very good friends Gene and Connie Roth, who will receive the Shofar Award on June 14 from the United Hebrew Institute of Kingston, Pennsylvania.

The shofar, or ram's horn is a religious musical instrument having profound significance in the Jewish religion. It constitutes an important part of the Jewish prayers in the synagogue during the festivals of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

The name of this award is certainly fitting. Just as the shofar plays an integral role in the